(b) if so,, whether Government is considering to motivate forest villagers to become protectors to save the dwindling tiger population in other reserves like Corbett, Ranthambore and Nayamgiri forest in Orissa etc.; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) As reported by the State, in the Periyar Tiger Reserve of Kerala, through ecodevelopment initiatives, the tiger reserve management has been successful in turning poachers into protectors of wildlife.

(b) and (c) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger funding support is being provided to all tiger range States, which *inter alia,* include ecodevelopment of villages around tiger reserves for eliciting local support towards conservation, through reciprocal commitments.

Rising level of air pollution

2216. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is rising level of air pollution in the National Capital Territory of Delhi (NCT);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is commissioning high-tech machines that can measure even the smallest toxic particles floating in the air; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The ambient air quality is monitored at 7 (seven) locations in the National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) under the National Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP). These locations include residential areas, industrial areas and traffic intersection. As per the monitored data, the levels of sulphur dioxide and carbon monoxide in the ambient air are showing a decreasing trend. The nitrogen dioxide levels decreased during the year 2007 in comparison to 2006. The concentration of the Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM) in residential and Industrial areas indicates mixed trend during 2001-2007.

(c) and (d) Sophisticated equipments for 3 (three) Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (CAAQMS) and 7 (seven) PM_{25} Samplers have been procured by the CPCB for monitoring of gaseous pollutants including fine particulate matter for assessing the ambient air quality in the NCT of Delhi.

Pamba Action Plan

2217. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a project proposal 'Pamba Action Plan' has been submitted to Government;

(b) if so, the details of proposal thereof;

(c) whether necessary approval has been given to the proposal;

(d) the total expenditure required for the project;

(e) whether funds were released for the implementation of the project; and

(f) the present status of the project, details thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (f) A project for abatement of pollution of river Pamba in Kerala was submitted in December, 2002 by the Government of Kerala. The details of the sanctioned project are as per Statement *(See* below). The Pamba Action Plan was sanctioned by Government of India under the National River Conservation Plan in May, 2003 on 70:30 cost sharing basis between the Central and the State Government at a cost of Rs. 18.45 crore. The Central Government's share in the project is Rs. 12.92 crore and the State Government's share in the project is Rs. 5.53 crore. Against the central share of funds, an amount of Rs. 1.75 crore has been released to the Government of Kerala. Twelve components of works were approved under the Pamba Action Plan, which are under various stages of progress. According to the State Government an expenditure of Rs. 1.38 crore has been incurred for the implementation of the approved works.

Statement

Pollution Abatement Scheme for the river at Pamba & Sabarimala
General abstract of cost

SI. No.	Items	Amount in lakhs
1.	Establishment of 3 MLD Sewage treatment plant as Sabrimala	240.00
2.	Establishment of 1.5 MLD Sewage treatment plant at Pamba of Technical report	120.00
3.	Sewage collection tank pumping system and sewer lines in Sabrimala and Pamba	194.30
4.	Construction of 300 latrines at Pamba and 400 latrines 100 bathrooms at Sabrimala	230.00
5.	Solid waste collection and disposal arrangements in Sabrimala and Pamba	250.00
6.	Segregation of existing drains and construction of new drains at Sabrimala and Pamba	126.95
7.	Construction of Mobile latrines at Sabrimala and Pamba	140.00
8.	Interception Barriers of Sewage across Kakka thodu and Urakkuzhi Theertham in Pamba	25.00
9.	Construction of Storage weirs and allied works for Flushing the Pollutants one each in Pamba river and Kakki river Upstream of the confluence point in Pamba with fencing at Pollutant sources and storage shed for generator near weir	86.25

SI. No.	Items	Amount in lakhs
10.	Construction of weir Downstream of bathing ghat at Arattukadavu to prevent pollutants of Njunajar river entering the bathing Ghat at Pamba	18.00
11.	New Bathing Ghat and allied works on the left side of Pamba river opposite to the existing bathing ghat	35.00
	SUB-TOTAL; (1 to 12)	1485.50
	Add 15 percent escalation	222.82
	TOTAL:	1708.32
	Add 8 percent centage charges	136.66
	GRAND TOTAL:	1844.98

Pollution in Ganga water

2218. SHR1 KAMAL AKHTAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Pollution Control Board has opined that despite 22 years of monitoring by the Supreme Court, the level of pollution, including fecal coliform, has increased in Ganga water rendering it unfit even for bathing and irrigation;

(b) if so, whether this polluted state of Ganga water has shaken the faith of majority of pilgrims who earlier used to take holy bath in the Ganga river to wash away their sins; and

(c) in what manner the envisaged Ganga Action Plan of Rs. 1000 crores will improve the quality of Ganga water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The monitoring of water quality of river Ganga indicates that the water quality of the river is complying with the designated standards in terms of the key indicators namely, Dissolved Oxygen (DO) & Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) in major locations except for marginal deviations from the standards at a few monitoring points between Kannauj and Varanasi. The level of Fecal Coliforms (bacterial indicator for health concerns) are reported to be exceeding the maximum permissible limit of 2500 MPN (Most Probable Number) per 100 millilitre at many of the monitoring stations along river Ganga except in upstream locations of Haridwar.

(c) Under Ganga Action Plan (GAP), Phase-I, completed in March, 2000 and GAP, Phase-II sanctioned in stages from 1993 onwards, 401 schemes of pollution abatement have been completed. A total of 970 million litres per day of sewage treatment capacity has been created for river Ganga under both the phases so far. The water quality monitoring done by independent reputed institutions of the country indicates that despite a phenomenal increase in the population of urban centres along the river banks the water quality of the river shows a discernible improvement over the pre-GAP quality.